



U.S. Department of Justice

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EVENT: Guilty Plea

Defendant: Robert Lee Elsberry III

**THREE METRO MEN PLEAD GUILTY TO ATTEMPTING TO
BUY 300 POUNDS OF MARIJUANA FOR \$300,000**

Three men attempting to buy 300 pounds of marijuana for \$300,000 have all pled guilty in federal court, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced. Joining in the announcement was DEA Special Agent-In-Charge Robert Corso.

Robert Lee Elsberry III, 27, of Frasier, pled guilty today to one felony count of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute controlled substances before United States District Judge Patrick J. Duggan. Steven Aaron, 35, of Detroit, and Brian Aaron, 37, of Eastpointe, entered their guilty pleas on April 24, 2007.

The three defendants drove to a Home Depot in Harper Woods on October 27, 2006 with \$276,978 intending to buy 300 pounds of marijuana. Instead, they were arrested by undercover DEA agents. All of the money was seized and forfeited to the government.

"These arrests and convictions kept a substantial quantity of marijuana off the streets

and resulted in a significant seizure of money,” United States Attorney Murphy said. “The DEA should be commended for the excellent investigation which resulted in today’s guilty pleas.”

Conspiracy to distribute more than 100 kilograms of marijuana carries a maximum sentence of 40 years imprisonment and a fine of up to \$2 million dollars. Sentencing for the Aaron brothers is scheduled for August 9, 2007 at 3:00 p.m.. No sentencing date has been set for Mr. Elsberry.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys David Gardey and Leonid Feller.